

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested. Claims 1-14 remain in this application as amended herein, and claims 15-16 are added. Accordingly, claims 1-16 are submitted for the Examiner's reconsideration.

Claims 2-3 and 9-10 have been amended solely to have the claims better conform to the requirements of U.S. practice. None of these amendments is intended to narrow the scope of any of these claims, and no new matter has been added by these amendments.

In the Office Action, claims 1-3, 5-9, and 11-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hendricks (U.S. Patent No. 5,659,350) in view of Tsukakoshi (U.S. Patent No. 5,086,426) and Ohishi (U.S. Patent No. 6,487,720), and claims 4 and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hendricks, Tsukakoshi, and Ohishi further in view of Arai (U.S. Patent No. 6,751,401). Applicant submits that the claims are patentably distinguishable over the relied on sections of the references.

Independent claims 1, 5-8, and 12-14 have been amended to more clearly show the differences between the claimed features and the relied on art. No new matter has been added by these changes. Support for these changes is found at, e.g., Figs. 14 and 18 and ¶¶ [0105] and [0114] of the specification.

As amended herein, claim 1 recites:

a first generating unit operable to set identification information corresponding to a reception device and reception control information for controlling the reception operation of the reception device in an area secured in advance in a format of composite information, thereby generating composite information, the composite information including (i) a version number of the composite information and (ii) a version number of the reception control information[.]

(Emphasis added.) Neither the relied on sections of Hendricks, the relied on sections of Tsukakoshi, the relied on sections of Ohishi, nor the relied on sections of Arai disclose or suggest composite information including a version number of the composite information. Moreover, neither the relied on sections of Hendricks, the relied on sections of Tsukakoshi, the relied on sections of Ohishi, nor the relied on sections of Arai disclose or suggest composite information including a version number of reception control information. Further, neither the relied on sections of Hendricks, the relied on sections of Tsukakoshi, the relied on sections of Ohishi, nor the relied on sections of Arai disclose or suggest composite information including a version number of reception control information (for controlling reception operation of a reception device in an area secured in advance in a format of composite information).

Rather such sections of Arai merely describe that (a) a version number is allocated to each transmitting unit of program information and (b) such program information includes main program information, i.e., audio and video information, and program information based on program scheduling information. (See col.1 11.10-11, col.11 11.5-6, and col.13 11.1-2.) These sections are not concerned with a version number of reception control information, and these sections are not concerned with a version number of composite information (the reception control information for controlling reception operation of a reception device in an area secured in advance in a format of the composite information).

Neither the relied on sections of Hendricks, the relied on sections of Tsukakoshi, nor the relied on sections of Ohishi overcome the deficiencies of the relied-on sections of Arai.

It follows, for at least these reasons, that neither the relied on sections of Hendricks, the relied on sections of

Tsukakoshi, the relied on sections of Ohishi, nor the relied on sections of Arai, whether taken alone or in combination, disclose or suggest the combination set out in claim 1. Claim 1 is therefore patentably distinct and unobvious over the relied on sections of the references.

Independent claims 5-8 and 12-14 each call for features similar to those set out in the above excerpts of claim 1. Claims 5-8 and 12-14 are therefore each patentably distinct and unobvious over the relied on sections of Hendricks, Tsukakoshi, Ohishi, and Arai at least for the same reasons.

Claims 2-4 depend from claim 1, and claims 9-11 depend from claim 8. Therefore, each of these claims is distinguishable over the relied on art for at least the same reasons as the claim from which it depends.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

New claim 15 depends from claim 1, and new claim 16 depends from claim 8. Therefore, each of these claims is distinguishable over the relied on art for at least the same reasons. Support for new claims 14-15 is found at, e.g., ¶¶ [0105] and [0114] of the specification.

As it is believed that all of the rejections set forth in the Official Action have been fully met, favorable reconsideration and allowance are earnestly solicited. If, however, for any reason the Examiner does not believe that such action can be taken at this time, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone applicant's attorney at (908) 654-5000 in order to overcome any additional objections which the Examiner might have.

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If there are any additional charges in connection with this requested amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-1095 therefor.

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Respectfully submitted,

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